

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ABLD, AFSP, PFOR, UR, US

SUBJECT: KIEV PROPERTIES

REF: (A) MOSCOW 11265 (B) STATE 158459 (C) MOSCOW 9805

(D) PORTER/BARRY LETTER OF JULY 7

1. REGRET THAT IT WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE FOR KNOOP TO VISIT KIEV IN NEAR FUTURE. FOLLOWING ARE INSTRUCTIONS AND SUGGESTIONS AS TO HOW EMBASSY AND KIEV GROUP SHOULD PROCEED.

2. STRELETSKAYA - A/FBO, EUR/EX, EUR/SOV AND ARCHITECT KNOOP HAVE REVIEWED PROPOSED BOUNDARY LINES OUTLINED IN PORTER TO BARRY LETTER OF JULY 7. WE FOUND BY ACCEPTING SOVIET PROPOSAL, WE WOULD ONLY LOSE FOUR PARKING SPACES.

SOVIET PROPOSAL WILL ACCOMMODATE 17 OPEN PARKING SPACES OR A FOUR-CAR GARAGE PLUS THIRTEEN PARKING SPACES AND STILL LEAVE SPACE FOR RECREATIONAL AREA. IF WE GET SPACE TO RIGHT SIDE OF NO. 12 (REF D, LINE A), IT COULD ACCOMMODATE FOUR MORE PARKING SPACES. WE DO NOT BELIEVE AREA GAINED

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FROM LINES C AND D WOULD GIVE US ANY SIGNIFICANT ADVANTAGE.

THEREFORE, WE CAN ACCEPT SOVIET LINE IN REAR COURTYARD. (WE WOULD STRONGLY PREFER INCLUSION OF AREA TO RIGHT OF SOVIET PROPOSAL RESULTING FROM LINE A BOUNDARY PER PORTER LETTER, BUT WOULD NOT INSIST ON THIS IF IT WOULD STAND IN THE WAY OF OUR OBTAINING SPACE WE NEED ON LEFT SIDE OF STRELETSKAYA 16.)

2. LINE B - BELIEVE WE SHOULD HOLD FIRM TO LINE B ON LEFT SIDE OF NO. 16 AS RECOMMENDED BY EMBASSY WITH PROVISION THAT WE WILL PRESERVE TREE. THERE WILL BE SUFFICIENT SPACE TO RIGHT OF TREE FOR TRUCK ACCESS IF 5.5 METER MEASUREMENT ACCURATE, BUT WE NEED SPACE PROVIDED BY LINE B IN BACK FOR VEHICLE MANEUVERING CAPABILITY AND CAR WASHING/REPAIR GARAGE. WE NOTE THAT SOVIET BOUNDARY LINE TO LEFT OF BUILDING (SHOWN IN RED) WOULD APPARENTLY ELIMINATE RIGHT OF WAY FROM STREET TO THAT PORTION OF REAR YARD. THIS, OF COURSE, WOULD BE TOTALLY UNACCEPTABLE.

3. FLORENTSIYA - KNOOP COULD NOT SEE ANY STRUCTURAL DESIGN PROBLEMS DURING HIS VISIT THAT WOULD PRECLUDE ACCEPTANCE OF MODIFIED PLANS. HOWEVER, WE REALIZE SOVIETS ARE EXTREMELY RELUCTANT TO RE-ROUTE PLUMBING AND VENTILATION IN PRE-FAB BUILDINGS. SINCE EMBASSY IN BEST POSITION TO JUDGE, SUGGEST EMBOFFS AND LOCAL EMPLOYEES EXPERIENCED IN REDOING APARTMENTS DECIDE QUESTION DIRECTLY WITH KIEV AUTHORITIES.

4. REGARDING USE OF COPPER WIRE VERSUS ALUMINUM WIRE IN FLORENTSIYA APARTMENTS, WE AGREE WITH EMBASSY POSITION STATED IN REF C. SINCE WE CONSIDER SOVIETS RESPONSIBLE FOR DETERMINING TYPE OF CABLE NECESSARY IN MEETING OUR ELECTRICAL POWER REQUIREMENTS, THEY SHOULD HAVE INCLUDED APPROPRIATE TYPE OF CABLE IN CONTRACT. HOWEVER, WE HAVE NO PROBLEM WITH THE USE OF ALUMINUM WIRE.

5. GORKY - WE ARE EXAMINING THE EMBASSY'S PROPOSALS WITH THE ARCHITECT, AND WILL INFORM YOU OF OUR CONCLUSION LATER.

6. IN ORDER FOR KNOOP TO FINISH DESIGN PLANS FOR GORKY, LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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HE NEEDS TO KNOW WHAT PLANS SOVIETS HAVE FOR OTHER TWO FLOORS IN ORDER TO ACCOMMODATE OUR PLANS TO THEIRS. SPECIFICALLY, HE NEEDS TO CONFIRM OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT SOVIETS WILL RETAIN COURTYARD STAIRWAY AND WHETHER THEY PLAN TO RELOCATE OR CHANGE WINDOWS IN REAR OF BUILDING. WILL ALSO NEED FLOOR-TO-CEILING HEIGHTS. PLEASE ADVISE. ROBINSON

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